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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/816,949

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Michael Rooke

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32294

7590

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EXAMINER

LY, NGHI H

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2617

DATE MAILED: 06/05/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/816,949	ROOKE ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Nghi H. Ly	2617	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03/08/06.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-66 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-66 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

3. Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 9, 11-13, 16-20, 22, 23, 26, 27, 29-31, 34-38, 40, 41, 44-46, 48, 49, 52, 53, 55, 56, 59, 60, 65 and 66 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Knotts (US 6,985,748) in view of Lantto (US 5,610,974).

Regarding claims 1, 19, 37, 40, 41, 45, 60, 65 and 66, Knotts teaches a multimedia messaging service arrangement in a telecommunications system (see Abstract), the arrangement comprising: a first system entity (see fig.7, item 200 and see

"2-Way SMS") providing a multimedia messaging service to user equipment connected to a network of a system (see fig.7, items 250 and/or 270 read on applicant's AN1 and/or AN2), and a second system entity providing a value added service (see column 6, lines 39-43) to a user of the user equipment via the multimedia messaging service (see fig.7, item 100 and see "2-Way SMS"), wherein the first system entity is configured to send a message to the second system entity (see fig.7, item 100 and see "2-Way SMS").

Knotts does not specifically disclose in which the message comprises roaming information on the user equipment.

Lantto teaches in which the message comprises roaming information on the user equipment (see column 15, lines 9-14).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the teaching of Lantto into the system of Knotts in order to enable a subscriber to obtain the same type of services in at least two different standard types of network (see Lantto, column 2, lines 10-12).

Regarding claims 2, 20, 38, 46 and 56, Knotts teaches a multimedia messaging service arrangement in a telecommunications system (see Abstract). Knotts does not specifically disclose teaches the roaming information comprises a roaming status indicating if the user equipment is roaming outside a home network of the user equipment.

Lantto teaches the roaming information comprises a roaming status indicating if the user equipment is roaming outside a home network of the user equipment (see

column 15, lines 9-14).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the teaching of Lantto into the system of Knotts in order to enable a subscriber to obtain the same type of services in at least two different standard types of network (see Lantto, column 2, lines 10-12).

Regarding claims 4, 22, 27 and 48, Knotts further teaches the second system entity is configured to use the roaming information when providing a value added service to the user equipment (see column 6, lines 39-43).

Regarding claims 5, 23 and 49, the combination of Knotts and Lantto further teaches the second system entity is configured to adapt, on the basis of the roaming information (see Lantto, column 15, lines 9-14).

Regarding claims 8, 26 and 52, Knotts further teaches the second system entity is configured to determine, on the basis of the roaming information, whether the value added service is providable to the user equipment (see column 6, lines 39-43).

Regarding claims 9 and 53, Knotts further teaches the second system entity is configured to select a route or a destination of at least one multimedia message to be delivered to the user of the user equipment according to the roaming information (see fig.1, connections between mobile devices).

Regarding claims 11, 29 and 55, Knotts teaches the second system entity is configured to determine charging related information according to the roaming information and to add the charging related information to at least one multimedia message to be delivered to the user equipment (see Abstract).

Regarding claims 12 and 30, the combination of Knotts and Lantto further teaches the first system entity is configured to send the message comprising the roaming information on the user equipment to the second system entity in response to a request received from the second system entity (see Lantto, column 15, lines 9-14).

Regarding claims 13 and 31, the combination of Knotts and Lantto further teaches the first system entity is configured to obtain information on a location of the user equipment from another system entity and to determine the roaming information on the user equipment according to the obtained location information before sending the message comprising the roaming information on the user equipment to the second system entity (see Lantto, column 15, lines 9-14).

Regarding claims 16, 34 and 44, Knotts further teaches the first system entity comprises a multimedia messaging service centre (see Abstract).

Regarding claims 17, 35 and 59, Knotts further teaches the second system entity comprises a multimedia messaging service value added service application (see Abstract).

Regarding claims 18 and 36, Knotts further teaches the user equipment comprises a mobile station (see fig.1, mobile phones 240, 250 and 260).

4. Claims 6, 7, 14, 15, 24, 25, 32, 33, 42, 43, 50, 51, 57, 58 and 61-64 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Knotts (US 6,985,748) in view of Lantto (US 5,610,974) and further in view of Official notice.

Regarding claims 6, 24, 50, 61 and 63, the combination of Knotts and Lantto

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teaches claims and 19. The combination of Knotts and Lantto does not specifically disclose the second system entity is configured to encrypt or decrypt at least part of the content of the at least one multimedia message to be delivered to the user equipment according to the roaming information. However, the examiner takes Office notice that such feature as recited is very well known in the art.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the above teaching of the Knotts and Lantto for providing a method as claimed, for encrypting or decrypting the multimedia message.

Regarding claims 7, 25, 51, 62 and 64, the combination of Knotts and Lantto teaches claims and 19. The combination of Knotts and Lantto does not specifically disclose the second system entity is configured to perform the encryption or decryption by using digital rights management. However, the examiner takes Office notice that such feature as recited is very well known in the art.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the above teaching of the Knotts and Lantto for providing a method as claimed, for encrypting or decrypting the multimedia message.

Regarding claims 14, 15, 32, 33, 42, 43, 57 and 58, the combination of Knotts and Lantto teaches claims 1, 19, 37 and 45. The combination of Knotts and Lantto does not specifically disclose the message comprising the roaming information on the user equipment is an MM7 interface message. However, the examiner takes Office notice that such feature as recited is very well known in the art.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time

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the invention was made to modify the above teaching of the Knotts and Lantto for providing a method as claimed, for providing another way to transmit message in the 3GPP.

5. Claims 3, 10, 21, 28, 39, 47 and 54 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Knotts (US 6,985,748) in view of Lantto (US 5,610,974) and further in view of Elizondo (US 6,917,813).

Regarding claims 3, 21, 39 and 47, the combination of Knotts and Lantto teaches claims 1, 19, 37 and 45. The combination of Knotts and Lantto does not specifically disclose the roaming information comprises an address of a switching centre which the user equipment is using.

Elizondo teaches the roaming information comprises an address of a switching centre which the user equipment is using (see column 2, lines 18-21).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the teaching of Elizondo into the system of Knotts and Lantto in order to provide SMS service when different SS7 signaling networks are in use (see [0012]).

Regarding claims 10, 28 and 54, the combination of Knotts, Lantto and Elizondo further teaches the second system entity is configured to determine a location of the user equipment (see Elizondo, Abstract and column 2, line 66 to column 3, line 2) according to the address of the switching centre which the user equipment is using and

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provide the user equipment with information relating to the determined location (see Elizondo, column 2, lines 18-21).

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-66 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nghi H. Ly whose telephone number is (571) 272-7911. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 am-5:30 pm Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Marsha Banks-Harold can be reached on (571) 272-7905. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Nghi H. Ly



Marsha D Banks-Harold

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